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FINAL EDITION



SABRES AT THE TRADE DEADLINE

» Anticipated trade of Evander Kane nets a 2019 conditional first-round pick, a second draft pick and Danny O'Regan, right, Jack Eichel's college linemate | **SPORTS, PAGE D1**



High court turns down Trump's appeal on DACA

Allows 'Dreamers' to avoid deportation unless Congress takes action on status

By ADAM LIPTAK
AND MICHAEL D. SHEAR
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — A Supreme Court decision Monday not to decide a case temporarily shields the young immigrants who had signed up for the DACA program from immediate deportation, and allows them to keep working legally in the United States.

The move means that the immigrants, often called “Dreamers,” could remain in legal limbo for many months unless Congress acts to make their status permanent.

The court declined an unusual White House request that it immediately decide whether the Trump administration can shut down the program of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, which shields some 700,000 young immigrants from deportation.

The Supreme Court's decision not to hear the administration's appeal was expected, as no appeals court has ruled on the issue. The court's order was brief, gave no reasons and noted no dissents. It said that it expected the appeals court to “proceed expeditiously to decide this case.”

President Trump ended the program in September, calling it an unconstitutional use of executive power by his predecessor and reviving the threat of deportation for immigrants who had been brought to the United States illegally as children.

But two federal judges have ordered the administration to maintain major pieces of the program while legal challenges move forward, notably by requiring the administration to allow people enrolled in it to renew their protected status. The Supreme Court's decision Monday not to hear the government's appeal will keep the program alive for months. The administration has not sought stays of those injunctions.

The court's decision not to hear the appeal could also relieve the immediate political pressure on lawmakers to permanently address the status of those immigrants, or to deal with the additional 1 million young immigrants who had never signed up for the DACA program. They remain at risk of deportation if immigration agents find them.

Even as he ordered DACA ended, Trump had called upon Congress to give the young immigrants legal status, and an eventual path to citizenship, before the program reached its previously scheduled expiration date next Monday.

But that proposal has been bogged down in partisan gridlock as members of Congress argue about broader changes to the U.S. immigration system that the president and his conservative allies in Congress have demanded as part of any deal to address the future of the young immigrants.

This month, senators failed

See **DACA** on Page A5



John Hickey/Buffalo News

Passive pursuits offered by trails, like Tonawanda Rails to Trails, are increasingly becoming a municipal priority.

Municipal activities

Trails help residents stay fit without paying a lot of money



What's in: The 4-mile-long Tonawanda Rails to Trails path, above, has been a hit with walkers, runners and cyclists. Other towns are working on similar projects.



What's out: Complexes like Lincoln Arena and the aquatic center in the Town of Tonawanda are costly to maintain and less popular in an era of smaller budgets.



Aquatic centers?

Ice rinks? Nope.

Residents want trails.

By JOSEPH POPIOLKOWSKI
NEWS STAFF REPORTER

Some of the area's newest and planned recreation destinations are described as “slam dunks” and “home runs.”

But they have nothing to do with basketball or baseball.

The Town of Tonawanda's 4-mile rails-to-trails path has gotten rave reviews for nearly two years. The City of Tonawanda is trying to capitalize on its confluence of trails by enticing users to visit its downtown shops. Construction of an 8-mile trail along the western shore of Grand Island begins this spring. And the town and village of Hamburg are getting serious about a trail system.

“In my opinion this is the best thing they've done in a long time in Tonawanda,” said Andrew Lange, who interrupted his jog on the rails-to-trails path Saturday just long enough to answer a reporter's question. “This is

See **Trails** on Page A3

Companies buy back shares with tax savings

Purchases likely to widen wealth gap

By MATT PHILLIPS
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Trump promised that his tax cut would encourage companies to invest in factories, workers and wages, setting off a spending spree that would reinvigorate the American economy.

Companies have announced plans for some of those investments. But so far, companies are using much of the money for something with a more narrow benefit: buying their own

shares.

Those buybacks are good for shareholders, including the senior executives who tend to be big owners of their companies' stock. A company purchasing its own shares is a time-tested way to bolster its stock price.

But the purchases can come at the expense of investments in things like hiring, research and development and building new plants — the sort of investments that directly help the overall economy. The buybacks will also most likely worsen economic inequality because the benefits of stocks purchases flow disproportionately to the

See **Tax cuts** on Page A5

Higgins, Collins seek border plaza revamp

Rivera rejects 'encroachment' of upgraded Peace Bridge site

By JERRY ZREMSKI
NEWS WASHINGTON BUREAU CHIEF

The Buffalo area's two House members Monday put forward a new proposal for an improved plaza on the American side of the Peace Bridge, saying technology advances could put major border operations on the Canadian side of the span and minimize the need for any expansion of the U.S. site.

But, like practically every Peace Bridge im-



From left, Reps. Chris Collins and Brian Higgins support updating the Peace Bridge plaza on the U.S. side of the border with Canada.

provement ever proposed, the plan from Reps. Brian Higgins and Chris Collins quickly met with strong pushback, this time from the Common Council member whose district includes the bridge and from a longtime neighborhood activist.

Higgins, a Buffalo Democrat whose district includes the bridge, and Collins, a Clarence Republican, announced their effort in a letter to the federal government agency that would be involved in building any new facilities at the border.

“We request that the agency place this proj-

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Mostly sunny and mild. High 50, low 38. Details on Page C8.



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